
In the house of representatives of the United States.

FEBRUARY 3d, 1814.

Read the first and second time and referred to the committee of foreign relations.

An Act

To prohibit the importation of certain articles, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in congress assembled, That*
3 from and after the first day of July next, it shall not be lawful
4 to import into the United States or the territories thereof, from
5 any foreign country or place, any goods wares, or merchandise
6 of the following description, that is to say:

7 Any article manufactured or composed of wool, or of which
8 wool is the material of chief value:

9 Any article manufactured or composed of cotton, or of which
10 cotton is the article of chief value, except nankeens from beyond
11 the Cape of Good Hope:

12 Any spirits distilled from the sugar-cane, or from the pro-
13 duce of the sugar-cane: *Provided, That nothing herein con-*

14 tained shall be construed to prevent the importation of wool
 15 in its raw or unmanufactured state: *And provided also*, That no
 16 articles which shall within fifteen months after the passing of this
 17 act, be imported from any place beyond the Cape of Good Hope,
 18 other than the territories, possessions or dependencies of the
 19 united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, shall be subject to
 20 the prohibition aforesaid.

1 Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That whenever any article
 2 or articles, the importation of which is prohibited by this act,
 3 shall, after the said first day of July next, be imported into the
 4 United States or the territories thereof, contrary to the true in-
 5 tent and meaning of this act, or shall, after the said first day of
 6 July next, be put on board of any ship or vessel, boat, raft, car-
 7 riage, or vehicle, with intention to import the same into the
 8 United States or the territories thereof, all such articles, as well
 9 as all other articles on board the same ship or vessel, boat, raft,
 10 carriage, or vehicle, belonging to the owner of such prohibited
 11 articles, shall be forfeited; and the owner thereof shall more-
 12 over forfeit and pay treble the value of such articles. And if
 13 the said prohibited articles shall, after the said first day of July
 14 next, be imported, or put on board of any ship or vessel, boat,
 15 raft, carriage, or vehicle, with intention to import the same into
 16 the United States or the territories thereof, contrary to the true
 17 intent and meaning of this act, and with the knowledge of the
 18 owner or master of such ship or vessel, boat, raft, carriage, or

19 vehicle, such ship or vessel, boat, raft, carriage, or vehicle shall
20 be forfeited, and the owner and master thereof shall moreover
21 each forfeit and pay treble the value of such articles.

1 Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That if any article or arti-
2 cles, the importation of which is prohibited by this act, and which
3 shall nevertheless be on board of any ship or vessel, boat, raft,
4 carriage, or vehicle, arriving after the said first day of July next,
5 in the United States or the territories thereof, shall be omitted
6 in the manifest, report or entry of the master, or the person hav-
7 ing the charge or command of such ship or vessel, boat, raft,
8 carriage, or vehicle, or shall be omitted in the entry of the
9 goods owned by the owner or consigned to the consignee of
10 such articles, or shall be imported or landed, or attempted to be
11 imported or landed without a permit, the same penalties, fines,
12 and forfeitures shall be incurred, and may be recovered as in the
13 case of similar omission or omissions, landing, importation, or
14 attempt to land or import, in relation to articles liable to duties
15 on their importation into the United States.

1 Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That every officer of the
2 customs shall have the like power and authority to seize any
3 articles imported contrary to the intent and meaning of this act,
4 to keep the same in custody until it shall have been ascertained
5 whether the same have been forfeited or not, and to enter any
6 ship or vessel, dwelling-house, store, building, or other place,
7 for the purpose of searching for, and seizing any such articles,

8 which he or they now have by law, in relation to goods, wares,
9 and merchandise subject to duty; and if any person shall con-
10 ceal or buy any goods, wares, or merchandise, knowing them
11 to be liable to seizure by this act, such person or persons shall,
12 on conviction thereof, forfeit and pay a sum double the amount
13 or value of the goods, wares, and merchandise so concealed or
14 purchased.

1 *Sec. 5. And be it further enacted,* That it shall be lawful for
2 any officer of the customs to stop and search any carriage or
3 vehicle of any kind whatsoever, and to stop any beast of bur-
4 den, on which he shall suspect there are any goods, wares or
5 merchandise, which shall have been introduced into the Uni-
6 ted States contrary to this act, or contrary to the laws now in
7 force, prohibiting the importation of articles, the growth, pro-
8 duce or manufacture of the united kingdom of Great Britain
9 and Ireland, and the colonies, dependencies or possessions
10 thereof. And if such officer shall find any goods, wares, or
11 merchandise, on any such carriage, vehicle, or beast of burden,
12 which he shall have probable cause to believe have been un-
13 lawfully introduced into the United States, he shall seize and
14 secure the same for trial according to law. And if any officer of
15 the customs shall suspect that any goods, wares, or merchandise,
16 which shall have been introduced into the United States contrary
17 to law, are concealed in any dwelling-house, store, or other build-
18 ing, he shall, upon application on oath, to any judge or justice

19 of the peace, be entitled to a warrant, directed to such officer,
20 who is hereby authorised to serve the same, to enter such house,
21 store or other building, in the day time only, and there to
22 search and examine whether there are any goods, wares, or
23 merchandise which shall have been unlawfully imported; and
24 if on such search or examination any goods, wares, or mer-
25 chandise shall be found which there shall be probable cause for
26 the officer making such search or examination, to believe have
27 been unlawfully introduced, he shall seize and secure the same
28 for trial according to law.

1 *Sec. 6. And be it further enacted,* That the powers and du-
2 ties of the officers of the customs shall be exercised and dis-
3 charged, as it respects property prohibited by law, from expor-
4 tation from the United States, in the same manner as is direct-
5 ed in the next preceding section of this act, with respect to pro-
6 perty prohibited from importation into the United States.

1 *Sec. 7. And be it further enacted,* That each and every offi-
2 cer of the customs (when making any search or seizure autho-
3 rised by this act) be, and he is hereby empowered to command
4 any person who shall be present at the time of making such
5 search or seizure, for the purpose of suppressing any resistance
6 by force, which may be offered or justly apprehended, to aid
7 and assist such officer in the discharge and performance of his
8 duty therein. And if any person being so commanded, shall neglect
9 or refuse to aid and assist such officer in making such search or

seizure, the person so neglecting or refusing shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding two hundred dollars, and not less than fifty dollars, to be recovered in an action of debt, or by information or indictment before any court proper to try the same.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That all penalties and forfeitures arising under, or incurred by virtue of this act, may be sued for, prosecuted and recovered, with costs of suit, by action of debt, in the name of the United States of America, or by indictment or information, in any court having competent jurisdiction to try the same; and shall be distributed and accounted for, in the manner prescribed by the act, entitled "An act to regulate the collection of duties on imports and tonnage," passed the second day of March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, and such penalties and forfeitures may be examined, mitigated or remitted in like manner, and under the like conditions, regulations, and restrictions as are prescribed, authorised, and directed by the act, entitled "An act to provide for mitigating or remitting the forfeitures, penalties and disabilities accruing in certain cases therein mentioned," passed the third day of March one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, and made perpetual by an act passed the eleventh day of February, one thousand eight hundred.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That the prohibitions of this act shall not be construed to extend to lawful captures from

3 the enemy, either by vessels having letters of marque and re-
4 prisal, or by the vessels of war and revenue of the United
5 States.

1 Sec. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That this act shall conti-
2 nue in force during the continuance of the act, entitled " An act
3 supplementary to the act, entitled ' An act concerning the com-
4 mercial intercourse between the United States and Great Bri-
5 tain and France and their dependencies, and for other pur-
6 poses and no longer.

1814. January 31.

Read the third time and passed the senate.

Attest,

SAM. A. OTIS, *secretary.*